



Patent  
Attorney's Docket No. 012778-122

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of )  
Yoshiyuki YASUI et al. ) Group Art Unit: 3661  
Application No.: 10/682,405 ) Examiner: Unassigned  
Filed: October 10, 2003 ) Confirmation No.: 3443  
For: ROAD CONDITION ESTIMATION )  
APPARATUS )

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
TRANSMITTAL LETTER**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Enclosed is an Information Disclosure Statement and accompanying form PTO-1449 for the above-identified patent application.

No additional fee for submission of an IDS is required.

The fee of \$180.00 (1806) as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is also enclosed.

A statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) is also enclosed.

A statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e), and the fee of \$180.00 (1806) as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) are also enclosed.

Charge \$\_\_\_\_\_ to Deposit Account No. 02-4800 for the fee due.

A check in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed for the fee due.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16, 1.17 and 1.21 that may be required by this paper, and to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 02-4800. This paper is submitted in duplicate.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

Date: February 17, 2004

By: Matthew L. Schneider  
Matthew L. Schneider  
Registration No. 32,814

P.O. Box 1404  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1404  
(703) 836-6620



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APPARATUS )

**FIRST INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the following information is brought to the Examiner's attention.

Copending U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/420,826 filed on April 23, 2003. U.S. Patent Application Publication No. US 2004-0019417 is the published version of this application.

Japanese Patent Laid-Open Publication No. 6-99800. A discussion of relevance of this document is set forth on page one of the present application.

Japanese Patent Laid-Open Publication No. 62-146754. A discussion of relevance of this document is set forth on page two of the present application. This document corresponds to U.S. Patent No. 4,794,539.

Japanese Patent Laid-Open Publication No. 11-99956. A discussion of relevance of this document is set forth on page two of the present application.

Japanese Patent Laid-Open Publication No. 2001-191937. A discussion of relevance of this document is set forth on page three of the present application.

Japanese Patent Laid-Open Publication No. 7-329808. A discussion of relevance of this document is set forth on page three of the present application.

Japanese Patent No. 2716435. A discussion of relevance of this document is set forth on page four of the present application.

AUTOMOTIVE ENGINEERING HANDBOOK, First Volume, *Basic & Theory*, Society of Automotive Engineers of Japan, Inc., February 1, 1990, pages 179-180.

To assist the Examiner in entering the foregoing information into the record, the above-noted documents are cited on the attached form PTO-1449.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98, a copy of each of the documents cited is enclosed, except that copies of the listed U.S. patent and U.S. patent application publication are not enclosed since it is no longer required according to the July 11, 2003 waiver of the requirement for copies of cited U.S. patents and U.S. patent application publications in national patent applications filed after June 30, 2003.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the foregoing information and to acknowledge such consideration by initialling, signing and returning the enclosed additional copy of form PTO-1449.

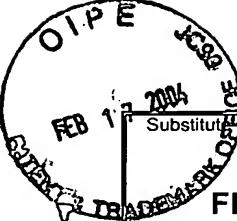
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Substitute for forms 1449A/PTO & 1449B/PTO

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|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| ATTORNEY'S DKT NO.<br>012778-122    | APPLICATION NO.<br>10/682,405 |
| APPLICANT<br>Yoshiyuki YASUI et al. |                               |
| FILING DATE<br>October 10, 2003     | GROUP<br>3661                 |

## **FIRST INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

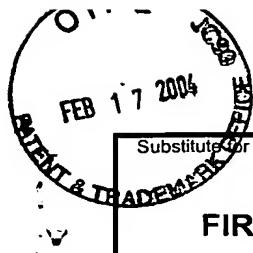
| Examiner Initials | Document Number | Kind Code (if known) | Country | Date of Publication (MM-DD-YYYY) | Translation Yes | Translation No |
|-------------------|-----------------|----------------------|---------|----------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|
|                   | 6-99800         | A                    | JAPAN   | 4-12-1994                        |                 |                |
|                   | 62-146754       | A                    | JAPAN   | 6-30-1987                        |                 |                |
|                   | 11-99956        | A                    | JAPAN   | 4-13-1999                        |                 |                |
|                   | 2001-191937     | A                    | JAPAN   | 7-17-2001                        |                 |                |
|                   | 7-329808        | A                    | JAPAN   | 12-19-1995                       |                 |                |
|                   | 2716435         | B2                   | JAPAN   | 11-07-1997                       |                 |                |
|                   |                 |                      |         |                                  |                 |                |
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## NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

|                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| Examiner Initials | Include name of author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. |
|                   | AUTOMOTIVE ENGINEERING HANDBOOK, First Volumne, <i>Basic &amp; Theory</i> , Society of Automotive Engineers of Japan, Inc., February 1, 1990, pages 179-180.  |
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. § 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. **SEND TO:** Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.



|  |                                     |                               |
|--|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Substitute for forms 1449A/PTO & 1449B/PTO                     | ATTORNEY'S DKT No.<br>012778-122    | APPLICATION NO.<br>10/682,405 |
| <b>FIRST INFORMATION DISCLOSURE<br/>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> | APPLICANT<br>Yoshiyuki YASUI et al. |                               |
|  | FILING DATE<br>October 10, 2003     | GROUP<br>3661                 |

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials | Document Number | Kind Code (if known) | Country | Date of Publication (MM-DD-YYYY) | Translation Yes | Translation No |
|-------------------|-----------------|----------------------|---------|----------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|
|                   | 6-99800         | A                    | JAPAN   | 4-12-1994                        |                 |                |
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|                   | 11-99956        | A                    | JAPAN   | 4-13-1999                        |                 |                |
|                   | 2001-191937     | A                    | JAPAN   | 7-17-2001                        |                 |                |
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| Examiner Initials | Include name of author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. |
|                   | AUTOMOTIVE ENGINEERING HANDBOOK, First Volumne, <i>Basic &amp; Theory</i> , Society of Automotive Engineers of Japan, Inc., February 1, 1990, pages 179-180.  |
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